

Trimetrexate

tri-me-TREX-ate

Brand Name: Neutrexin

Drug Class: Opportunistic Infection and Other Drugs

Trimetrexate glucuronate, also known as Neutrexin, belongs to the class of medicines called antiprotozoals. Antiprotozoals fight diseases caused by protozoa, microscopic organisms that can infect humans. When infections occur in patients with weakened immune systems, including people with HIV, they tend to be more serious and are called opportunistic infections (OIs).

Trimetrexate glucuronate also belongs to the class of medicines called antineoplastics. Antineoplastics slow or stop the growth of cancer cells. Trimetrexate has been used to treat cancers of the head, neck, lungs, and pancreas; however, data are limited.

HIV/AIDS-Related Uses

Trimetrexate glucuronate was approved by the FDA on December 17, 1993, to treat a certain OI called *Pneumocystis pneumonia* (PCP), especially in HIV/AIDS patients who cannot tolerate sulfamethoxazole-trimethoprim therapy.

Dosage Form/Administration

Trimetrexate glucuronate comes in a powder form that is mixed with liquid and is given by injection into a vein.

Contraindications

Individuals should tell a doctor about any medical problems before taking this medicine.

Possible Side Effects

Along with its desired effects, trimetrexate glucuronate may cause some unwanted effects, including fever and sore throat; unusual tiredness or weakness; mouth sores or ulcers; skin rash and itching; black, tarry stools; blood in urine or stools; pinpoint red spots on skin; and unusual bleeding or bruising. Individuals should tell a doctor if they have any of these side effects.

Other side effects of this medicine may not be serious and may lessen or disappear with continued use of this medicine. Less serious side effects of this medicine include confusion, nausea or vomiting, and stomach pain. Individuals should tell a doctor if these side effects continue or are bothersome.

Drug and Food Interactions

A doctor should be notified of any other medications being taken, including prescription, nonprescription (over-the-counter), or herbal medications.

Clinical Trials

For information on clinical trials that involve Trimetrexate, visit the ClinicalTrials.gov web site at <http://www.clinicaltrials.gov>. In the Search box, enter: Trimetrexate AND HIV Infections.

Manufacturer Information

Neutrexin
United States Bioscience Inc
100 Front St / One Tower Bridge
West Conshohocken, PA 19428
(800) 872-4672

Trimetrexate
MedImmune Inc
35 West Watkins Mill Rd
Gaithersburg, MD 20878
(800) 949-3789

For More Information

Contact your doctor or an AIDSinfo Health Information Specialist:

- Via Phone: 1-800-448-0440 Monday - Friday, 12:00 p.m. (Noon) - 5:00 p.m. ET
- Via Live Help: http://aidsinfo.nih.gov/live_help Monday - Friday, 12:00 p.m. (Noon) - 4:00 p.m. ET